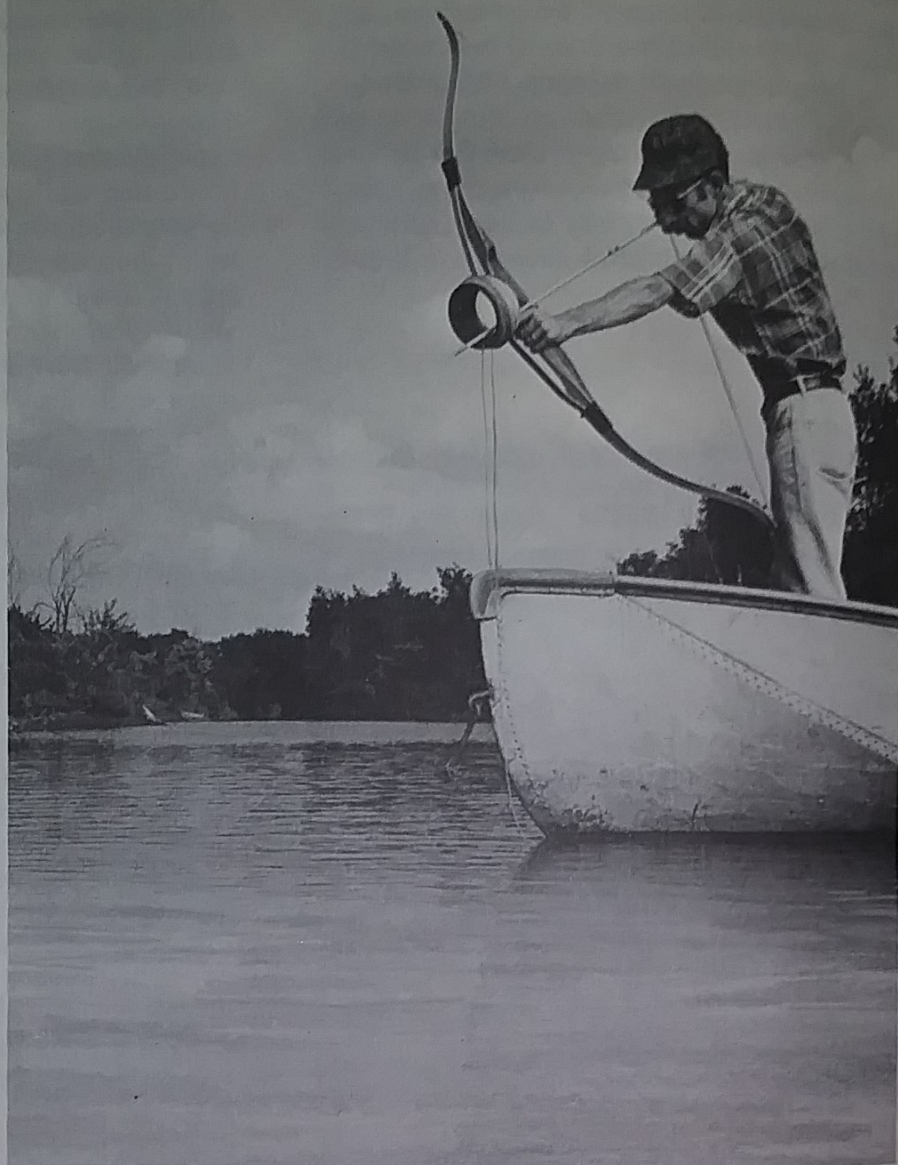


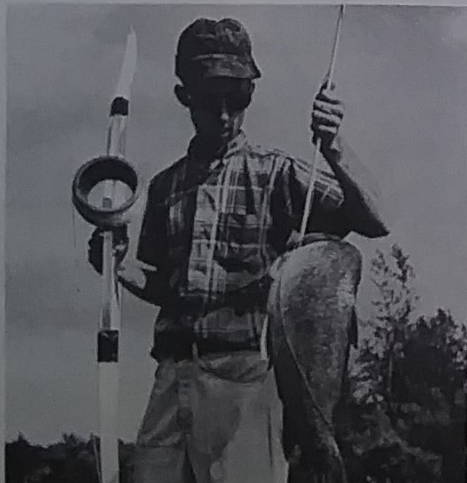
Make a center-shot bow reel

Rough-fishing with a reel you carved yourself can add extra pleasure to a special kind of archery from a boat

By BOB HICKORY



PROOF OF PERFORMANCE is demonstrated by author. He finished off reel on lathe with fine sandpaper, paste wax and high-speed burnishing with fine steel wool and cloth.



■ **WHETHER YOU HUNT** carp in Illinois or sharks on the Florida flats, the center-shot bow reel makes your shooting more precise. You can add to the fun if you make your own reel.

The wooden reel is laminated from select, split-free, straight-grained hardwood and turned on a lathe. The glued-up block should be approximately 3 in. thick and 6¼ x 6¼ in. square. Since the reel will be exposed to weather, use weatherproof glue. Next glue a ¾-in. pine block to the back of the laminated block with paper between the pieces.

Mark intersecting lines from corner to corner

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1. **LAMINATED HARDWOOD BLOCK** is glued to a pine back-up block with a paper separator spaced between.



3. **INNER CUT** to hollow out reel is stopped once the back-up paper and pine block are reached.

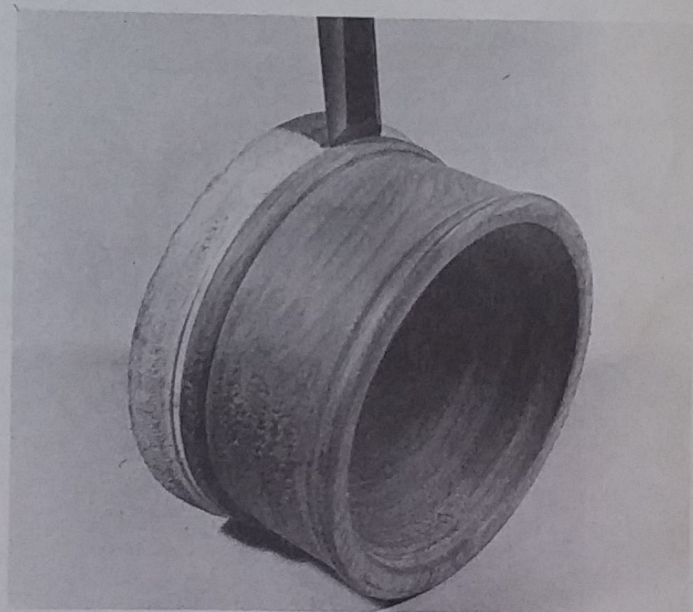
to find the center. Place a compass o.c. and draw a 6¼-in.-dia. circle. Cut the waste, using a band saw if you have one.

To cut down vibration from the hefty block, position the mounted block as near center as possible on the faceplate using screws that *will not* go through into the turning block. When you finish the turning, you can separate the pine block from the turning by inserting a chisel at the paper and tapping.

Use a slow speed on the lathe and turn the work, using a round-nose chisel. Carefully rough-out and "true" the piece to round. With the out-



2. **LATHE TURNING** shaves down outside of the reel, and fine sanding later prevents snagging of the line.

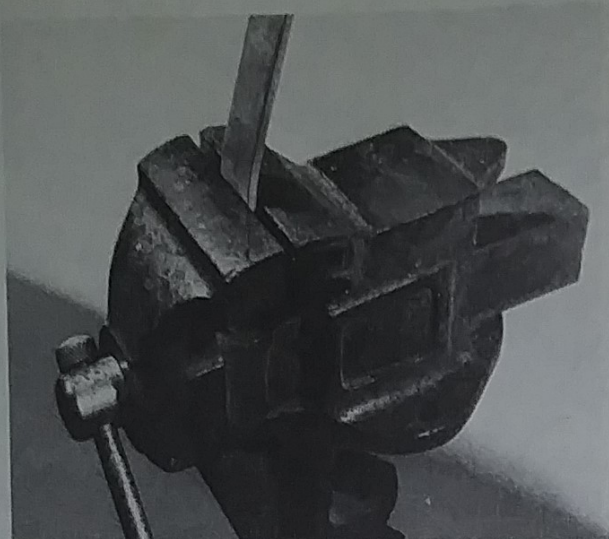


4. **CHISEL** separates pine backing block from the reel. Block prevented screws from touching hardwood.

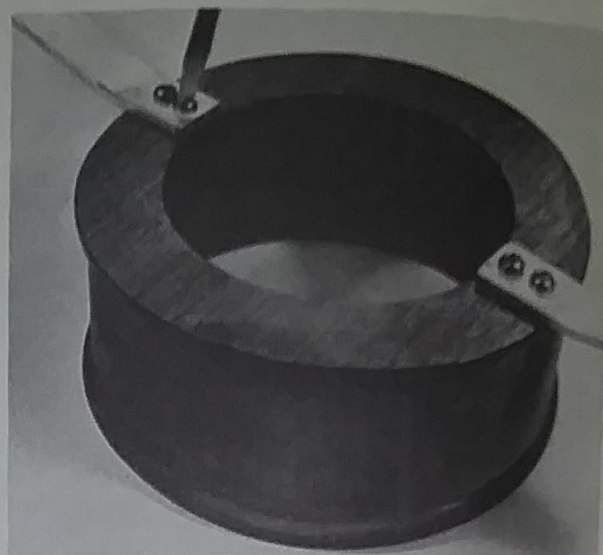
side turned to the shape desired, remove the toolrest and thoroughly sand the piece smooth, using a fine sandpaper (No. 120 grade or finer).

Replace the toolrest and position it flat across the front of the workpiece. Start the lathe and work the round-nose chisel in on the left side (as you face the revolving workpiece). Cut the inside profile as shown in the drawing. When you cut through the paper lamination and can see the pine block, the turning is finished. Remove the toolrest and again sand smooth.

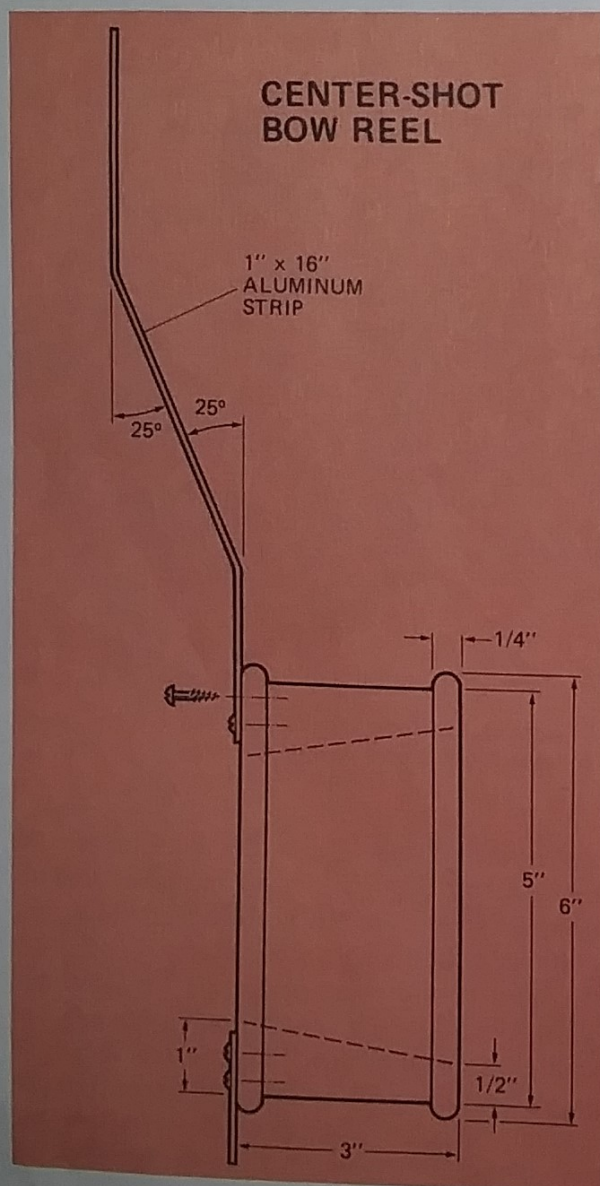
Because the bow rig will be exposed to all kinds of weather and treatment, make certain you



5. **BENDING** aluminum bracket strip in vise gives it shape (shown in diagram below) before mounting.



6. **ALUMINUM STRIPS**, with 25° bends shown in diagram, are secured to reel with r.h. screws.



use a weatherproof finish. On the model shown, while it was still in the lathe, I applied a paste-wax finish, burnishing it at a fairly high rate of speed with fine-grade steel wool and a soft cloth.

The metal supports are cut from 1-in. do-it-yourself aluminum available at hardware stores. Cut them to length and use emery cloth to smooth the ends. Holding the supports in a vise, bend the ends to the angles shown in the drawing above. Then, drill the two holes in the ends, remove the supports from the vise and fasten them in place with roundhead screws.

To attach the bow reel to your bow, tape it in place with plastic electrical tape. Do not leave it on for any more than a week's time, as the tape may leave a sticky, black residue. Wind about 200 ft. of nylon line (at least 40 pounds test) on the reel, tie the end to a fishing arrow and you are ready to go hunting—for fish.

PLASTIC ELECTRICAL TAPE secures reel brackets to the bow. Tape should be removed after use, or left on no more than a week, to prevent possibility of sticky black adhesive remaining on the bow.

